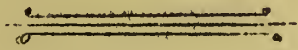


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URBAN DISTRICT OF
TREDEGAR



ANNUAL REPORT
of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

and

SANITARY INSPECTORS

FOR

THE YEAR 1943



THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF TREDEGAR.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
SANITARY INSPECTORS
for
THE YEAR --- 1943.

TREDEGAR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman (1943) ---- Councillor R.I.Davies, J.P.

Chairman (1943) - Public Health & Housing Committee

Councillor J. Bevan.

Clerk of the Council -- Oliver Hlewellyn, Solicitor.

MEMBERS

WEST WARD

Councillor G.H.Cecil.
" T.C.Davies.
" O.Jones.
" J.Stockton.

CENTRAL WARD

Councillor William Allen.
" W.A.B. Harvey.
" D.J. Jermine.
" J.Travenen.

GEORGETOWN WARD

Councillor J.Bevan.
" D.W.Bowen.
" A.L.Coombes.
" T.J.Thomas.

SIRHOWY WARD

Councillor R.I.Davies.
" W.M.Clarke.
" Rev G.C.Roberts.
" W.C.Smith.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health (part time) --

E.T.H. Davies, M.D., M.S.(Lond), F.R.C.S. (Eng)

Senior Sanitary Inspector (whole time) --

C.G. Watkins, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,

Certificated Sanitary Inspector, The Royal Sanitary  
Institute 1920.

Certificated Inspector of Meat & Other Foods, The  
Royal Sanitary Institutel927.

Second Sanitary Inspector (whole time)

Emlyn Williams, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,

Certificated Sanitary Inspector, The Royal Sanitary  
Institute & Sanitary Inspectorg Examination Joint Board 1933

Certificated Inspector of Meat & Other Foods, The Royal  
Sanitary Institute. 1934

Diploma of The Royal Institute of Public Health and  
Hygiene. 1936

Clerical Assistant (Temporary) --- Mr D.J. Turner.

Matron, Ashvale Isolation Hospital ---

Miss A.E.W. Robjohns, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Member of the College of Nursing.

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MEDICAL OFFICERS REPORTThe Grove,
TREDEGAR.

12th. September, 1944.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Tredegar.

Mr CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report for the Year 1943 (which has been drawn up on the lines indicated in Circular 10/44 (Sales) issued by the Welsh Board of Health). Many of the normal features of the report have accordingly been either omitted or curtailed, and much of the information, comment and figures usually given are abbreviated or restricted to a degree which allows of the former practice in the matter of the "lay out" of the report into sections being temporarily suspended.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the AreaArea of the District :-

Tredegar Parish	4, 360 acres
Dukestown Parish	3, 780 acres
	8, 140 acres

Rateable Value of the District £67, 589

The product of the penny rate for
Financial Year ending 31st March 1944 £235:8:7dTotal rates in the pound for that year 21/-
(2d special Water Rate)

The natural and social conditions of the Area, fully described in earlier reports, altered little during the year. Coal mining is the staple industry of the district.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year

Birth Rate.- per 1,000 population --- 19.08
(again well above the average for England & Wales also
the County)

1942 --- 19.45. 1941 ---- 17.92.

Still births a rate of 0.74 per 1,000 population as
as against 0.82 for 1942.

This rate calculated per 1,000 total (live
and still) births.

1943 --- 37.4 1942 --- 40.47

~~~~~





Death Rate per 1,000 population 11.46

A decided decrease on the previous years's figures of 13.32. Figures for some earlier years are given below:-

|      |     |       |      |     |       |
|------|-----|-------|------|-----|-------|
| 1941 | --- | 12.26 | 1914 | --- | 17.90 |
| 1940 | --- | 13.32 | 1901 | --- | 19.93 |

\*\*\*\*\*

Maternal Death. Again, for the second successive year, there were no deaths recorded under this heading.

The figures given for England & Wales and also the County per 1,000 total births (live & still) for the year 1943 are:-

|                 | Puerperal<br>Sepsis &<br>Infection. | Others. | Total. |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---------|--------|
| England & Wales | .73                                 | 1.56    | 2.29   |
| Monmouthshire   | .80                                 | 1.20    | 2.00   |

When it is recalled that for 1941 the rates for the Tredegar Urban Area were shown to be almost double those for the County, and nearing four times these for England and Wales, the notable achievement of a nil return for two years running concurrently, speaks for itself and is a compliment to the health services concerned.

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#### Infantile Mortality.

The rate per 1,000 live births works out at 36.27. It is the lowest on record for the district and very favourably compares with the rates given for the County and the Country. This again is highly satisfactory, especially having regard to all the circumstances of your district, and to the fact that the period concerned runs into the fifth Year of War. It is also a tribute to the unrelenting vigilance exercised in sanitary administration and infant welfare work, despite war-time demands, by both the County and district authorities.

A glance at the figures for the years quoted below, illustrates the downward trend.

|      |     |        |      |     |       |
|------|-----|--------|------|-----|-------|
| 1904 | --- | 190.00 | 1924 | --- | 73.4  |
| 1914 | --- | 125.00 | 1934 | --- | 52.77 |

The rate of legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births for 1943 was 37.94, (a ratio of approximately 1 in 26). There was no illegitimate infant death during the year.

The tabulation set out below summarises the chief vital statistics in comparison with those of England & Wales and also the County.

|                 | Birth Rate                             |                                         | Death Rate                          |                                       |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|                 | Live births<br>per 1,000<br>population | Still Births<br>per 1,000<br>population | All ages<br>per 1,000<br>population | Under 1 yr<br>per 1,000<br>population |
| England & Wales | 16.5                                   | 0.51                                    | 12.1                                | 49.                                   |
| Monmouthshire   | 18.6                                   | 0.70                                    | 11.39                               | 44.95                                 |
| Tredegar U. D.  | 19.03                                  | 0.74                                    | 11.46                               | 36.27                                 |



General Provision of Health Services for the Area.Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

To facilitate reference, particulars in this matter are incorporated at the beginning of the Report. As in the earlier war years, duties in connection with Civil Defence and Kindred health matters took up much of the time of the Department.

Laboratory Facilities, Ambulance Facilities, Nursing in the Home, Treatment Centres and Clinics, Hospitals etc.

Little change or development occurred in the services provided under this heading during the year, and were therefore similar to the description given in previous reports.

The number of journeys made during the year by your Motor Ambulance was 307, covering a mileage of 4,102 miles.

The Public Mortuary was used for the reception of dead bodies on 8 occasions (Males 5 - Females 3).

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Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.Water

The water area of the Council has been well supplied and every effort was made to maintain a high standard of purity. The total quantity of water drawn during the year amounted to 389,876,350 gallons, of which 131,477,600 gallons were delivered in bulk to the Bedwellty Urban District and 825,495 gallons to the Rhymney Urban District.

The Sirhowy and Dukestown portion of the Urban Area was, as hitherto, supplied by the Ebbw Vale U.D. Council.

Waterworks CapacityGeorgetown :-

|                   |       |                     |
|-------------------|-------|---------------------|
| Storage Reservoir | ..... | 14,000,000 gallons. |
| Service Reservoir | ..... | 1,500,000 gallons.  |
| Filter Beds       | ..... | 350,000 gallons.    |

Nantybwyh :-

|                   |       |                     |
|-------------------|-------|---------------------|
| Storage Reservoir | ..... | 50,000,000 gallons. |
| Filtration Works  | ..... | 1,500,000 gallons.  |

Trevil :-

|                    |       |                  |
|--------------------|-------|------------------|
| High Level Service | ..... | 150,000 gallons. |
|--------------------|-------|------------------|

Rainfall

The rainfall is that recorded at "Redesdale" by Mr D. Walter Davies, M.Inst. Gas E., the Council's Gas & Water Engineer and Manager, at an elevation of 963 feet above ordnance datum.

| <u>1943.</u> | <u>Inches.</u> | <u>1943.</u> | <u>Inches.</u> |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| January      | 13.09          | July         | 3.26           |
| February     | 5.13           | August       | 5.76           |
| March        | 1.51           | September    | 6.36           |
| April        | 2.14           | October      | 5.59           |
| May          | 6.26           | November     | 5.05           |
| June         | 4.84           | December     | 3.61           |
|              |                |              | <u>62.60</u>   |

There were 236 rain days and the greatest fall recorded was 1.78 on February 8th.

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Previous yearly records taken at the same place are :-

|            |       |            |       |
|------------|-------|------------|-------|
| 1942 ..... | 56.53 | 1927 ..... | 62.86 |
| 1941 ..... | 51.88 | 1926 ..... | 52.83 |
| 1940 ..... | 57.36 | 1925 ..... | 57.02 |
| 1939 ..... | 69.89 | 1924 ..... | 65.67 |
| 1938 ..... | 57.47 | 1923 ..... | 60.73 |
| 1937 ..... | 52.56 | 1922 ..... | 45.82 |
| 1936 ..... | 64.20 | 1921 ..... | 27.49 |
| 1935 ..... | 60.52 | 1920 ..... | 51.70 |
| 1934 ..... | 57.36 | 1919 ..... | 40.80 |
| 1933 ..... | 42.59 | 1918 ..... | 50.44 |
| 1932 ..... | 49.39 | 1917 ..... | 41.95 |
| 1931 ..... | 56.79 | 1916 ..... | 47.01 |
| 1930 ..... | 63.21 | 1915 ..... | 44.17 |
| 1929 ..... | 54.83 | 1914 ..... | 56.87 |
| 1928 ..... | 59.08 | 1913 ..... | 61.09 |

showing an average rainfall of 54.00 inches.

The average rainfall for 26 years, 1881 - 1907 recorded at "The Willows", by the late Dr G.A. Brown at an elevation of 1024 feet above ordnance datum, was 58.70 inches.

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#### Water Samples :-

A number of routine samples of drinking water (drawn from house taps with direct service from mains) were taken during the year at various points of your district and submitted for examination to the County Pathologist, with the results as stated below :-

#### (a) Chemical Examination:-

|                            | <u>Satisfactory.</u> | <u>Unsatisfactory</u> |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Tredegar U. D. Supply      | 2.                   | -                     |
| Ebbw Vale U. D. C. Supply. | 1.                   | -                     |

#### (b) Bacteriological Examination

|                           |    |    |
|---------------------------|----|----|
| Tredegar U. D. C. Supply  | 9. | 3. |
| Ebbw Vale U. D. C. Supply | 3. | -  |

oooooooooooo

#### The Council's Open Air Swimming Pool. 1943 Season.

|                                           |         |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|
| Number of Adult Swimmers .....            | 2,455.  |
| Number of Youth Swimmers .....            | 2,605.  |
| Number of Child Swimmers .....            | 20,827. |
| Number of Elementary School Children .... | 2,327.  |
| Number of Secondary School Children ..... | 246.    |
| Number of L. C. C. School Children .....  | 685.    |
| Number of Spectators .....                | 3,439.  |

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Drainage and Sewerage:

Practically the whole of the district is well provided with stoneware subsidiary sewers, which are linked up to the main sewer laid along the river bed. The Western Valley's (Mun) Sewerage Board (of which the Council form a constituent authority) have control of the trunk sewers.

The cleansing and repair of choked or defective drainage systems, both public and private, is pressed for immediately upon report or discovery.

Rivers and Streams

The river Howy, with a number of small tributaries traverses the length of the district. Every vigilance is exercised to prevent the dumping of refuse along the banks.

Closet Accommodation

The water carriage system is almost universal throughout the area. An estimate of the number of each type of closet is as follows :-

- |                                                                                                                                                               |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| (a) Number of pail or privy closets (including several of the chemical type) to isolated farms, cottages and other premises where there is no sewer available | 51.    |
| (b) Number of closets with fixed receptacles.                                                                                                                 | 10.    |
| (c) Number of closets with movable receptacles.                                                                                                               | 5.     |
| (d) Number of water-closets (with flushing apparatus)                                                                                                         | 2,795. |
| (e) Number of water-closets (hand flushed)                                                                                                                    | 2,356. |

Continued





Public Cleansing

This important branch of the Public Health Services was well maintained throughout the year.

The equivalent rate in the £ for these services, for the financial year ended 31st. March, 1944. was :-

|                                                    |                   |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| House and Trade refuse Collection and Disposal ... | 1/10d             |
| Street Cleansing ...                               | 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d |

The approximate quantities of materials collected and disposed of under the Council's "Salvage Scheme" (inaugurated towards the end of July, 1940) were :-

|                                  | During the year 1943. |       |      | Total since commencement of the scheme. |       |      |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------|------|-----------------------------------------|-------|------|
|                                  | Tons.                 | Cwts. | Qrs. | Tons.                                   | Cwts. | Qrs. |
| Waste paper & Cardboard.         | 101.                  | 3.    | 2.   | 432.                                    | 14.   | 0.   |
| Metals.                          | 9.                    | 3.    | 0.   | 123.                                    | 6.    | 3.   |
| Flattened & Unflattened<br>Tins. | 28.                   | 13.   | 1.   | 59.                                     | 4.    | 1.   |
| Textiles.                        | 2.                    | 1.    | 1.   | 5.                                      | 11.   | 0.   |
| Bottles & Jars.                  | 6.                    | 2.    | 1.   | 12.                                     | 0.    | 3.   |
| Bones.                           | 2.                    | 18.   | 3.   | 7.                                      | 8.    | 0.   |
| Rubber.                          | 5.                    | 5.    | 0.   | 8.                                      | 7.    | 0.   |
| Total :-                         | 155.                  | 7.    | 0.   | 648.                                    | 11.   | 3.   |

Roads.

1.

The milcage of roads in the area is as follows :-

Classified :-

|                               |      |              |
|-------------------------------|------|--------------|
| Class (1)- A                  | 465. | 2.52 miles.  |
| A                             | 4048 | 4.01 miles.  |
| Class (2)- B                  | 4256 | 1.36 miles.  |
|                               |      | 7.89 miles.  |
| Unclassified roads taken over |      | 32.61 miles. |
|                               |      | 40.50 miles. |

The number of street gullies in the district is estimated at about 1,500.



Sanitary Inspection of the Area

## WATER CLOSETS --

|                                                                         |     |      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------|
| Pail-closets converted into water-closets                               | --- | 1.   |
| New stone or brick water-closets erected                                | --- | 13)  |
| Indoor water-closets provided                                           | --- | 6)   |
| Elsan (chemical) closet provided                                        | --- | 1)   |
| Existing closets on old culverts etc.,<br>drained and diverted to sewer | --- | 2.   |
| Closet drains relaid                                                    | --- | 9.   |
| Closet buildings renovated                                              | --- | 22.  |
| New pans to water-closets fixed :-                                      |     |      |
| Pedestal type                                                           | --- | 32)  |
| Hopper type                                                             | --- | 5)   |
| Foul waterclosets cleansed                                              | --- | 233. |
| Flush tanks and water supply to waterclosets<br>installed               | --- | 45.  |
| Flush tanks and watersupply to waterclosets<br>repaired                 | --- | 67.  |

## HOUSEDRAINS --

|                                                                                                                    |     |      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------|
| New stoneware housedrains laid                                                                                     | --- | 17.  |
| Housedrains relaid                                                                                                 | --- | 7.   |
| Choked housedrains cleansed                                                                                        | --- | 318. |
| New stoneware gully-traps fixed to<br>housedrains                                                                  | --- | 43.  |
| Housedrains connected to sewers                                                                                    | --- | 11.  |
| Defective drainage system remodelled<br>(including the provision of inspection<br>chambers and ventilating shafts) | --- | 22.  |

## URINALS --

|                         |     |    |
|-------------------------|-----|----|
| New urinals constructed | --- | 3. |
| Urinals repaired        | --- | 2. |

## HOUSING DEFECTS --

|                                                       |     |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Eaves, troughing and downpipes provided<br>or renewed | --- | 47. |
| Eaves, troughing and downpipes repaired               | --- | 24. |
| Roofs stripped and reslated                           | --- | 1.  |
| Roofs repaired                                        | --- | 35. |
| Window frames and sashes repaired or<br>renewed       | --- | 7.  |
| Firegrates and ovens repaired or renewed              | --- | 4.  |
| General repairs to houses carried out                 | --- | 41. |
| Yards repaved or concreted                            | --- | 7.  |
| Internal floor pavements relaid                       | --- | 5.  |

|                                |     |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|
| VARIOUS OTHER NUISANCES ABATED | --- | 67. |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|



## NOTICES SERVED ---

|           |       |      |
|-----------|-------|------|
| Informal  | ----- | 135. |
| Statutory | ----- | 29.  |

## INSPECTIONS AND REVISITS ---

|                                                                 |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Common Lodging Houses                                           | 85.  |
| Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops                                 | 68.  |
| Slaughter-houses                                                | 785. |
| Shops, Stalls etc.                                              | 302. |
| Pigstyes, Stables, Chicken Cots, etc.                           | 61.  |
| Factories and Workplaces (including Bakehouses)                 | 132. |
| Housedrains and Waterclosets                                    | 589. |
| Housing inspections                                             | 563. |
| Infectious Diseases (investigation and disin-<br>fections)      | 221. |
| Various other inspections (including verminous<br>infestations) | 652. |

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## REGISTERED BUILDINGS AND TRADES

The respective number of registered premises within the area at the end of 1943 were as follows:-

|                          |       |     |
|--------------------------|-------|-----|
| Common Lodging-houses    | ----- | 2.  |
| Slaughter-houses         | ----- | 2.  |
| Cowsheds and dairies     | ----- | 39. |
| Milkshops                | ----- | 7.  |
| Bakehouses               | ----- | 16. |
| Factories and Workplaces | ----  | 74. |

It will be readily observed by the number of visits quoted that these place have been kept under regular supervision.



HOUSING

The war-years and war conditions, with house building almost at a standstill, and the great difficulty, and sometimes failure, experienced in securing even the most essential repairs, have naturally aggravated the ever acute shortage of decent accommodation to meet the needs of your district.

However, much time and thought both from the National and Local point of view have been given to this most important phase of Post War Reconstruction.

The present Government's accepted policy for a determined attack on bad housing and planning, with a general upgrading, is very heartening, especially to older towns like Tredegar which contain so large a proportion of low standard and ill-planned dwellings.

Views synonymous with this declared policy, have been repeatedly expressed by your Health Department in reports submitted from time to time for a number of years past. Moreover, much good work has undoubtedly been accomplished throughout the country as a whole under the provisions of the Housing Acts 1930 - 1936 (which afford Local Authorities very wide powers in this direction).

Nevertheless, quite apart from Slum Clearance procedure, with the benefits of modern rehousing accommodation to the occupiers so displaced, the aim and object now to be striven for and achieved, is the larger issue of co-ordinating the replanning and the raising of the general standard of housing in keeping with present day requirements; so that similarly equal rights to enjoy such facilities as hot water supply, bathroom and other amenities may not be denied the equally deserving, and probably more responsive sections of the community, who now live in what were formerly regarded as fairly reasonably fit dwellings, despite their lack of modern convenience.

\*\*\*\*\*

Four Certificates were issued during the year under The Rent and Mortgage Interest Restrictions Acts 1920 - 1938.

\*\*\*\*\*







Inspection and Supervision of FoodMilk Supply

Every endeavour was constantly made throughout the year to ensure a clean and safe milk supply for your district, attention being given to the various stages of production, storage and distribution.

The bulk of the supply is imported, quite an appreciable proportion from the West Wales and West of England Counties.

Graded Milk Samples :-

| G R A D E   | Number of samples which |                      |       |
|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------|
|             | Satisfied Test.         | Did not Satisfy Test | Total |
| PASTEURISED | 11.                     | 6.                   | 17.   |

Routine Milk Samples:-

|                                                                                           | Local Producers | Producers outside the District. | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------|
| Number of samples reported upon as conforming to a satisfactory Bacteriological standard. | 23.             | 7.                              | 30.   |
| Number of samples reported upon as bacteriologically unsatisfactory.                      | 12.             | 8.                              | 20.   |
|                                                                                           | 35.             | 15.                             | 50    |

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.  
National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme

Your co operation in the working of this scheme was put into effect early in October of the year. From then to the close of the year, 122 milk samples were taken from local retailers - producers for submission to the Resazurin Test at the Area Laboratory the results of which were on the whole fairly satisfactory.



Meat and Other Foods Inspection.

Systematic inspection of the food supply of the district was carried out during the year, and with the attention possible given to this very necessary duty.

Government Scheme of Food Control  
(Centralised Slaughtering) and Meat  
distribution for the year 1943.

Number of animals killed for human consumption at the Government Control Slaughter-house, Tredegar :-

| <u>Cattle</u> | <u>Pigs</u> | <u>Sheep</u> | <u>Calves</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1,414.        | 44.         | 23,184.      | 895.          | 25,537.      |

(as against a total of 23,209 animals for 1942)

Number of ready-dressed (English) carcasses received and distributed :- 41. (Mutton only)  
 (as compared with 1,102 (various) carcasses for 1942)

Number of pigs killed for human consumption by local pig-keepers :- 229.  
 (as compared with 135 for 1942)

Imported Meat received and Distributed:-

|               | <u>Tons</u> | <u>Cwts</u> | <u>Qrs</u> | <u>lbs</u> |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Beef          | 239         | 10          | 1          | 21         |
| Mutton & lamb | 526         | 9           | 1          | 24         |
| Veal          |             | 14          | 2          | 0          |
| Pork          | 73          | 5           | 2          | 8          |
| Corned Beef   | 78          | 12          | 3          | 8          |
| Corned Mutton | 12          | 14          | 0          | 18         |
| Corned Pork   |             |             | 2          | 10         |
| Offal.        | 38          | 3           | 3          | 23         |
| Total         | 969         | 11          | 2          | 2          |

as compared with 1,195 17 0 0 for 1942

Licences :-

Slaughter of Animals Act 1933

New licences issued covering 1943 3.

Renewal of licences 20.



Below is given a list of meat and other articles of food found on examination to be unfit for human consumption. Where possible and under guarantee, these were salvaged for industrial or animal feeding purposes, and the remainder destroyed :-

## M E A T :-

|                             | <u>Tons</u> | <u>Cwts</u> | <u>Qrs</u> | <u>Lbs</u> | <u>Number of whole carcasses included</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Beef                        | 4.          | 0.          | 2.         | 13.        | 18.                                       |
| Mutton                      |             | 11.         | 3.         | 0.         | 37.                                       |
| Pork                        |             | 4.          | 0.         | 7.         | 4.                                        |
| Veal                        |             | 1.          | 3.         | 7.         | 4.                                        |
|                             | 4.          | 18.         | 0.         | 27.        | 63.                                       |
| Offal                       | 1.          | 14.         | 0.         | 27.        |                                           |
|                             | 6.          | 12.         | 1.         | 26.        |                                           |
| 124 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs bacon |             |             |            |            |                                           |
| 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ " ham      |             |             |            |            |                                           |
| 12 " Sausage                |             |             |            |            |                                           |
| 2 " Brown                   |             |             |            |            |                                           |
| 158 lbs                     |             | 1.          | 1.         | 18.        |                                           |
| Other foods                 |             |             |            |            |                                           |
| Miscellaneous               | 1.          | 16          | 2.         | 24.        |                                           |
| Canned Foods                |             |             |            |            |                                           |
| 1059 containers             |             |             |            |            |                                           |
| Bottled Preserves           |             |             |            |            |                                           |
| 246 containers              |             |             |            |            |                                           |
| approx 1305 lbs             |             | 11.         | 0.         | 11.        |                                           |
| Total approx weight.        | 9.          | 2           | 0          | 23         |                                           |

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# Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases

## Brief Review

### NOTIFICATIONS

A comparison of the rates per 1,000 population of notifications received for the year 1943, with the figures for 1942, is as follows:-

|                      | England & Wales. |       | Tredegar Urban Area |       |
|----------------------|------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
|                      | 1942.            | 1943. | 1942.               | 1943. |
| Smallpox             | (0.00)           | --    | (--)                | --    |
| Scarlet Fever        | (2.19)           | 3.01  | (1.59)              | 1.48  |
| Diphtheria           | (1.05)           | 0.88  | (3.95)              | 3.36  |
| Erysipelas           | (0.30)           | 0.31  | (6.72)              | 1.03  |
| Pneumonia            | (1.07)           | 1.34  | (2.55)              | 2.86  |
| Typhoid Fever        | (0.01)           | 0.01  | (6.09)              | 0.05  |
| Paratyphoid Fever    | (0.01)           | 0.01  | (--)                | --    |
| Cerebro Spinal Fever | (0.14)           | 0.08  | (0.14)              | 6.09  |
| Whooping Cough       | (1.73)           | 2.54  | (1.40)              | 7.26  |
| Measles              | (7.46)           | 9.88  | (1.97)              | 17.74 |

It will be seen that the district was free throughout the year from Smallpox and Paratyphoid Fever. There was but one notified case of Enteric Fever which recovered.

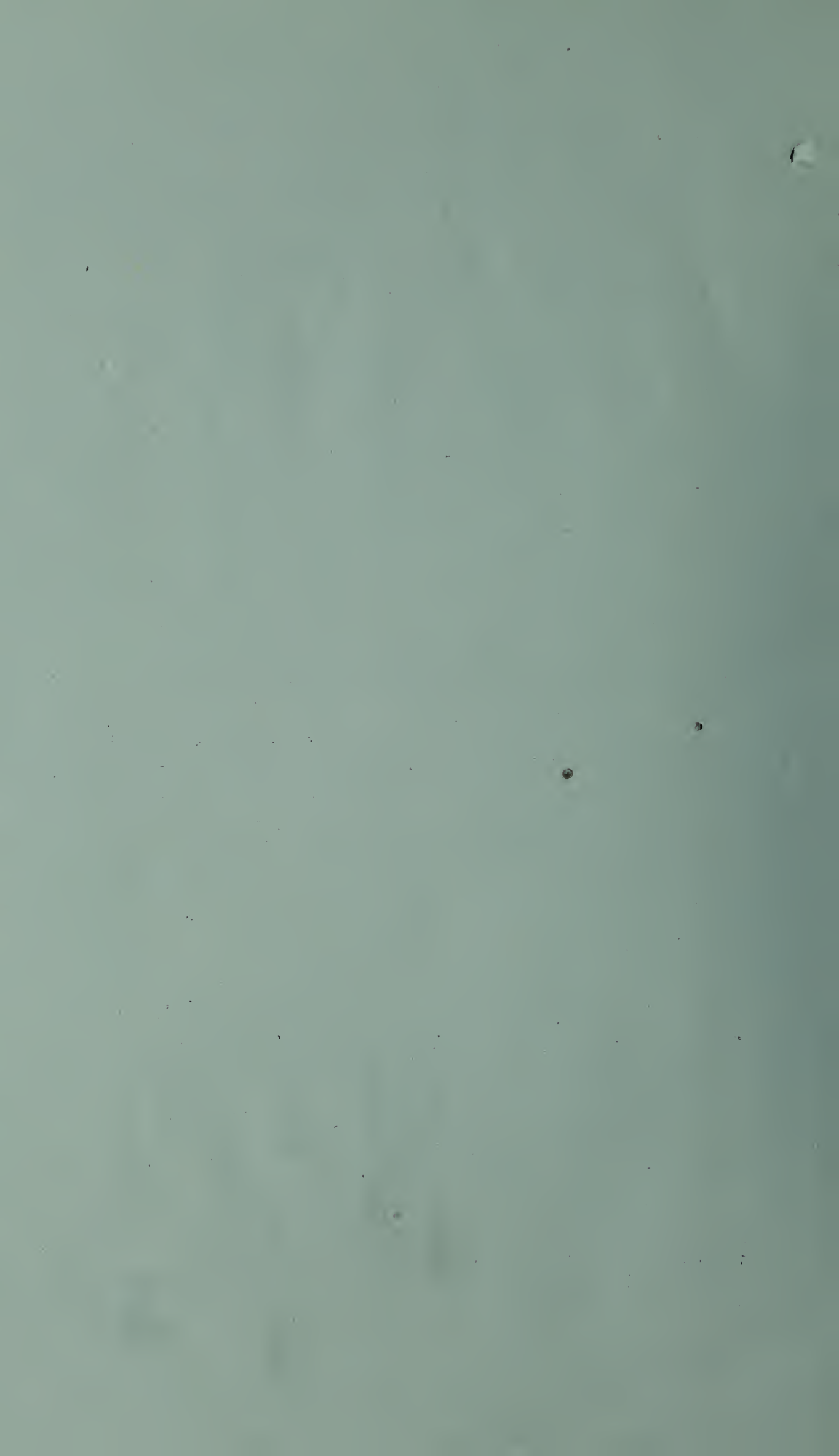
The incidence of Scarlet Fever hitherto regarded as endemic to the district, was less than half of that for the Country as a whole, and the very mild type generally with no fatal results. No cases occurred during the months of April, June and July, and one only for each of the months of January, February and May respectively.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever, which accounted for a number of deaths during the earlier war years, was absent except for two cases notified towards the end of the year. Again no deaths were recorded from this cause.

The report for 1942, noted with satisfaction a very marked drop in the number of Whooping Cough and likewise Measles notifications received. This was not however maintained for 1943. The figures show a sharp rise in the incidence of both child, but none the less dangerous, diseases, which were most prevalent during the earlier half of the year. The cases were fairly evenly disseminated over the whole district but fortunately, one death only, (attributed to Measles) occurred.

It will be observed that diphtheria notifications were still very much above the average for the Country, but many of the cases admitted to hospital, were of a mild nature and sent in for observation, and happily there were no deaths.

The campaign of immunisation against diphtheria continued throughout the year. Regular sessions were held at the clinic established for the purpose. Arrangements were made whereby a considerable number of children received treatment at the local schools and the departments appreciation of the very ready assistance given by both headteachers and staff in this direction cannot be left unmentioned.





The number of children completing immunisation treatment during the year was :-

|                   |                                         |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1 to 5 age group  | 459 (as compared with 436 for 1942)     |
| 5 to 15 age group | 1,155 (as compared with 1,066 for 1942) |
| Total             | 1,614 (as compared with 1,502 for 1942) |

Percentage of child population of the district considered to be immunised at the close of 1943

|                     |      |
|---------------------|------|
| age 1 to 5 years    | 54.3 |
| age 5 to 15 years   | 88.3 |
| Total 1 to 15 years | 78.8 |

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Upon the occurrence of infectious diseases amongst scholars, notices of exclusion and later of re-admission of all cases and contacts are transmitted to the headteachers of the school attended. During 1943 the number of school children in respect to whom such notices were sent (cases and contacts) were :-

	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever	Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Others	Total.
Exclusion.	85.	13.	3.	3.	104.
Re-admission.	83.	12.	3.	3.	101.

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#### Causes of Death - (general note)

There was no unusual or excessive mortality from any cause during the year. Heart disease, though less than the previous year, still was the chief cause. Of the deaths from cancer, the localisation of the disease was the stomach or duodenum in almost half the cases. The deaths from pneumonia and influenza were, with one exception, amongst those of 55 years of age and over.

The tabulation given below sets out the percentage of certain of the causes of death to the total mortality for the year.

| Cause of Death           | Percentage of total Deaths |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Heart Disease.           | 21.9                       |
| Cancer.                  | 12.9                       |
| Cerebral Haemorrhage.    | 11.2                       |
| Bronchitis.              | 9.0                        |
| Tuberculosis (all forms) | 9.0                        |
| Pneumonia                | .2                         |
| Road Traffic Accidents   | .1                         |
| Other Violent Causes     | 6.4                        |



Industrial Diseases

Particulars as to diseases under this heading notified for the district for 1943, and three earlier years (kindly supplied by Dr T.R.Sutherland) are :-

|                                    | 1940.     | 1941.     | 1942.     | 1943.     |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Miners Nystagnus                   | 4.        | 15.       | 17.       | 13        |
| Beat Hand                          | 1.        | 4.        | 1.        | 11.       |
| Beat Elbow                         | 6.        | 4.        | 4.        | -         |
| Beat Knee                          | 6.        | 14.       | 14.       | 17.       |
| Dermatitis (due to dust & liquids) | 5.        | 2.        | 2.        | 4.        |
| Tenosynovitis of Wrist             | <u>3.</u> | <u>4.</u> | <u>1.</u> | <u>2.</u> |
|                                    | 25.       | 43.       | 39.       | 47.       |

Isolation Hospital Facilities

It can be repeated that the requirements of the district have been amply served and assistance rendered to neighbouring Areas in this direction at the Council's Ashvale Isolation Hospital, where much good work continues to be accomplished by a competent and qualified staff under the direction of the Matron.

Particulars of the number of patients (including observation cases) treated at the hospital during 1943 are :-

|               | Diphtheria. | Scarlet Fever. | Cerebro Spinal Fever. | Others.   | Total     |
|---------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Admissions :- |             |                |                       |           |           |
| Tredegar Area | 85.         | 3.             | 3.                    | 6.        | 97.       |
| Outside Areas | <u>10.</u>  | <u>5.</u>      | <u>2.</u>             | <u>2.</u> | <u>19</u> |
|               | 95.         | 8.             | 5.                    | 8.        | 116.      |
| Deaths :-     |             |                |                       |           |           |
| Tredegar Area | -           | -              | -                     | 2.        | 2.        |
| Outside Areas | <u>1.</u>   | <u>-</u>       | <u>1.</u>             | <u>1.</u> | <u>3.</u> |
|               | <u>1.</u>   | <u>-</u>       | <u>1.</u>             | <u>3.</u> | <u>5.</u> |

565 throat and nasal swabs (116 of which proved positive) apart from other specimens such as blood, faeces and urine, were sent from the hospital for examination during the year, in which work as in other directions the kind co-operation of the County Medical Officer and his staff has to be acknowledged.



Tuberculosis

The figures relating to new cases and mortality during 1943, arranged according to age groups, will be found in Table lll at the end of the report. Reference to the totals given below, together with those for several previous years will be useful for the purpose of comparison :-

| Y E A R | New Cases.       |                    | Deaths.           |                    |
|---------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
|         | Respirat-<br>ory | Non<br>Respiratory | Respirat-<br>ory. | Non<br>Respiratory |
| 1943.   | 43.              | 11.                | 19.               | 2.                 |
| 1942    | 22.              | 9.                 | 14.               | 3.                 |
| 1941.   | 30.              | 13.                | 9.                | 2.                 |
| 1940    | 22.              | 10.                | 8.                | 2.                 |
| 1939.   | 31.              | 6.                 | 16.               | 1.                 |
| 1938.   | 15.              | 22.                | 6.                | 6.                 |

The state of the Tuberculosis Register at the commencement and at the close of 1943 was as follows :-

| D A T E.      | MALES |         | FEMALES |         | TOTALS. |
|---------------|-------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|               | Pul.  | Non-Pul | Pul.    | Non-Pul |         |
| 1st Jan 1943  | 76.   | 68.     | 75.     | 45.     | 264     |
| 31st Dec 1943 | 85.   | 69.     | 84.     | 46.     | 284.    |

Number of cases added to the Register and brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification - 4 (pulmonary-Male - 2 pulmonary - Female - 1 - Non pulmonary - Female - 1.) There was one non-notified tuberculosis death, a ratio of 4.8% tuberculosis deaths.





Total number of notifications of admissions to (Form 1) and discharges from (Form 2) Institutions during 1943 were :-

|             | M A L E S. |                  | F E M A L E S |                  |
|-------------|------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
|             | Pulmonary  | Non<br>Pulmonary | PULMONARY     | Non<br>PULMONARY |
| Admissions. | 15.        | 3.               | 6.            | 1.               |
| Discharges. | 15.        | 2.               | 3.            | 1.               |

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade) or section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis)

It was found necessary for the Council to arrange for the destruction of soiled bedding in certain cases and to compensate accordingly.

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The following report has kindly been supplied by Dr E. Aslett, Tuberculosis Physician, West Wymouthshire Area. The King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association :-

## Tredegar Tuberculosis Clinic

Report for the year ended December 31st 1943

|                                                  |                 |       |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Total number of new cases examined at the Clinic |                 |       |
|                                                  | during the year | 426.  |
| Number of cases diagnosed as :-                  |                 |       |
| (a) Pulmonary Tuberculosis                       | 36)             | 42.   |
| (b) Non-Pulmonary " "                            | 6)              |       |
| Total number of attendances at the Clinic        |                 | 1331. |
| Number of patients treated in Hospital           |                 | 29.   |
| Number of patients treated in Sanatoria          |                 | 6.    |

I conclude my report by once again expressing my appreciation of the continued and willing support of the Council and the loyal service rendered the Department by the Officers and all members of the Staff throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen  
Yours faithfully

Edwin. T. H. Davies,

M.D., M.S (Lond) F.R.C.S (Eng.)

Medical Officer of Health.

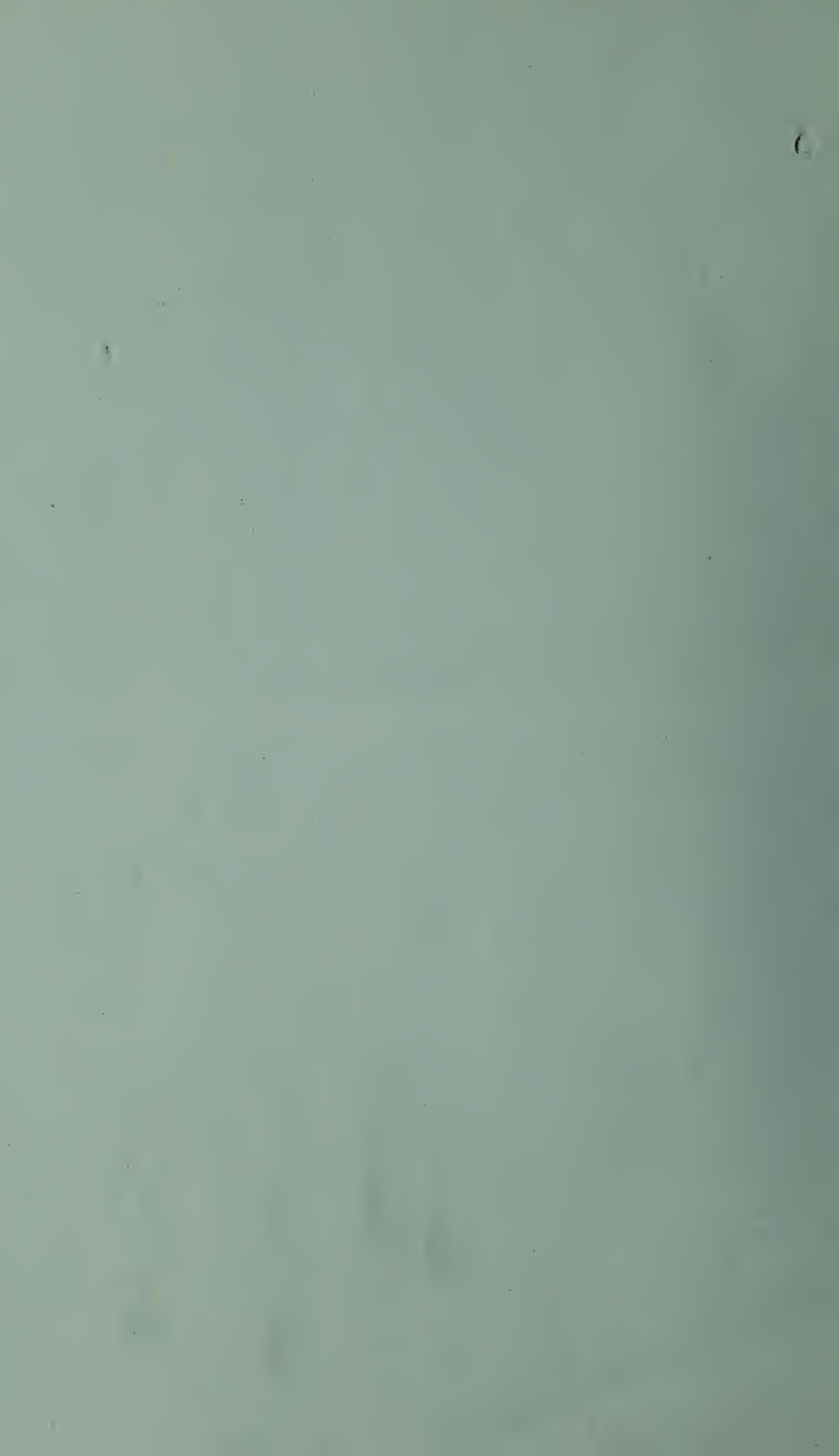




TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of whole District  
1928 - 1943

| YEAR | Births | Nett deaths belonging to the district |             |
|------|--------|---------------------------------------|-------------|
|      | RATE   | Under One Year                        | At all Ages |
|      |        | Rate 1000 net Births.                 | Rate        |
| 1928 | 19.31  | 52.96                                 | 11.17       |
| 1929 | 18.12  | 62.2                                  | 11.11       |
| 1930 | 17.99  | 64.53                                 | 10.37       |
| 1931 | 20.23  | 95.13                                 | 11.76       |
| 1932 | 19.60  | 79.82                                 | 10.95       |
| 1933 | 16.14  | 87.43                                 | 11.46       |
| 1934 | 16.9   | 52.77                                 | 12.13       |
| 1935 | 16.04  | 64.78                                 | 11.21       |
| 1936 | 16.62  | 49.72                                 | 12.72       |
| 1937 | 15.99  | 75.96                                 | 11.92       |
| 1938 | 14.94  | 57.69                                 | 12.3        |
| 1939 | 16.63  | 40.00                                 | 11.74       |
| 1940 | 16.39  | 74.38                                 | 13.32       |
| 1941 | 17.99  | 74.88                                 | 12.26       |
| 1942 | 19.45  | 62.03                                 | 13.32       |
| 1943 | 19.08  | 36.27                                 | 11.46       |



TABLE II

Infantile Mortality - 1943

| Cause of Death                                                    | Under 1 week | 1 - 2 weeks | 2 - 3 weeks | 3 - 4 weeks | Total under 1 month | 2 - 3 Months | 3 - 6 Months | 6 - 9 Months | 9 - 12 Months | Total deaths under 1 year |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Congenital Malformation<br>Premature Birth<br>Debility & Marasmus | 7            | 1           | 2           | 1           | 9                   | 1            | 1            | 1            | 1             | 10                        |
| Pneumonia                                                         | 1            | 1           | 1           | 1           | 1                   | 1            | 1            | 1            | 1             | 1                         |
| Convulsions                                                       | 1            | 1           | 1           | 1           | 1                   | 1            | 1            | 1            | 1             | 1                         |
| Bronchitis                                                        | 1            | 1           | 1           | 1           | 1                   | 1            | 1            | 1            | 1             | 1                         |
| Gastric Enteritis                                                 | 1            | 1           | 1           | 1           | 1                   | 1            | 1            | 1            | 1             | 1                         |
|                                                                   | 8.           | 1           | 2.          | 1           | 10.                 | 2.           | -            | 2.           | -             | 14.                       |



TABLE LII

Tuberculosis

New Cases and Mortality during 1943  
according to age groups

| Age<br>groups        | New Cases. |     |                  |    | Deaths.   |    |                  |    |
|----------------------|------------|-----|------------------|----|-----------|----|------------------|----|
|                      | Pulmonary  |     | Non<br>Pulmonary |    | Pulmonary |    | Non<br>Pulmonary |    |
|                      | M.         | F.  | M.               | F. | M.        | F. | M.               | F. |
| 0                    | -          | -   | -                | -  | -         | -  | -                | -  |
| 1                    | -          | -   | 2.               | -  | -         | -  | -                | -  |
| 5                    | 1.         | 1.  | -                | 1. | -         | -  | 1.               | -  |
| 15                   | 6.         | 7.  | 2.               | 2. | 2.        | 2. | -                | -  |
| 25                   | 7.         | 5.  | -                | 1. | 4.        | 2. | -                | -  |
| 35                   | 3.         | 2.  | 1.               | 1. | 3.        | 2. | 1.               | -  |
| 45                   | 3.         | 2.  | -                | 1. | 1.        | 2. | -                | -  |
| 55                   | 3.         | 2.  | -                | -  | -         | 1. | -                | -  |
| 65<br>and<br>upwards | 1.         | -   | -                | -  | -         | -  | -                | -  |
| Total                | 24.        | 19. | 5.               | 6. | 10.       | 9. | 2.               | -  |

